DIXON®

Operator's Manual For ZTR® Mowers

SERIAL NUMBERS

WHEN REFERRING TO SERIAL NUMBER ON OWNER REGISTRATION, USE MOWER SERIAL NUMBER LOCATED ON FRAME AT REAR OF ENGINE. NUMBER WILL BEGIN WITH DM.

IMPORTANT READ CAREFULLY

The DIXON ZTR mower is easy and fun ‘to operate. However, the ZTR mower is not a toy or a recreational vehicle. Any power mower must be operated properly to be safe.

Before you use your ZTR mower, read the operator’s manual carefully. Read the Technical Data Brochure provided for each specific model. Become familiar with the controls.

Your Dixon dealer will provide a check out ride and answer your questions. See your dealer for warranty service, parts, repairs, and questions.

WARRANTY

Refer to Warranty Registration Form (P/N 8288) for details on both residential and commercial use applications.

SAFETY

The most common causes of lawn mower injuries are:

1. Contact with mower blade(s) with hands or feet.
2. Tipping over.
3. Running over children.

70 PREVENT THESE AND OTHER INJURIES, READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL INSTRUCTIONS IN MANUAL AND ON MOWER BEFORE STARTING MOWER. FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS-READ CAREFULLY

General Operation

- Read, understand, and observe all instructions before starting mower.
- Allow only responsible adults to operate mower.
- Wear appropriate, safe clothing when operating mower. Never operate mower with bare feet or open sandals.
- Do not use mower when grass is wet or slippery.
- Clear area of rocks, wire, toys, and other objects which can cause injury If thrown by mower.
- Clear area of people and pets. Stop mower If anyone enters area.
- Do not carry passengers.
- Look behind before and during backing. Do not mow in reverse unless absolutely necessary. Check discharge direction. Do not point discharge at people, passing cars, windows, or doors,
- Slow down before turning.
- Do not leave running mower unattended. Turn off blade, set parking brake, turn off engine and remove key before dismounting.

  Your Dixon mower is equipped with a weight-sensitive switch which kills the engine when the operator leaves the seat while blade is engaged. **TEST THIS IMPORTANT SAFETY FEATURE BEFORE EACH MOWER USE BY STARTING ENGINE, ENGAGING BLADE AND RISING SLIGHTLY FROM SEAT. IF ENGINE DOES NOT STOP, SEE YOUR DEALER FOR NECESSARY REPAIR.**
- Turn off blade, shut off engine, and remove-key before removing grass catcher or unclogging chute.
- Mow only in daylight or good artificial light.
- Do not operate mower while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Watch for traffic when operating mower near or when crossing roadways.

SLOPE OPERATION

Slopes are a major factor in loss of control and tip-over accidents. **ALL SLOPES REQUIRE EXTRA CAUTION.**

- Mow across the slope with your Dixon ZTR, never up or down.
- Watch for holes and hidden hazards. Tall grass will hide obstacles.
- Use extra care with grass catchers or other attachments which change the stability of the mower.
- Use slow speed.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights to improve stability.
- Do not use grass catcher on steep slopes. If grass catcher is used, empty grass catcher bags when partially full.
- Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction. Keep movements slow and gradual.
- Do not start on a slope.
- If tires lose traction, disengage blade and proceed slowly down the slope.
- Do not turn on slopes. If absolutely necessary, turn slowly and gradually downhill.
- Do not mow near drop-offs, ditches or embankments.
- Do not mow on wet grass. Reduced traction will cause sliding.
- Do not stabilize mower by placing your foot on the ground.

CHILDREN

Children are attracted to lawn mowers and the mowing activity. **NEVER** assume children will stay where they were last seen. Be alert to avoid accidents.

- Do not allow children in yard when mower is in operation.
- Be alert and turn off mower if a child enters area. Before and during backing, look behind and DOWN for small children.
- Do not allow children to operate mower.
- Do not allow children to ride on mower.
- Be extra alert for children when approaching blind corners, shrubs and trees.

SERVICE

- Handle gasoline with care. It is highly flammable.
- Use approved gas container. Keep out of the reach of children.
- Never remove gas cap when engine is running.
- Fill gas tank outdoors.
- Shut off engine. Allow engine to cool before refueling.
- Clean up gas spills immediately. Turn off fuel shut-off before storing or transporting mower. “If in doubt as to how to operate the fuel shut-off valve, ask your dealer to demonstrate this procedure.”
- Allow machine to cool before storing.
- Do not store mower or gasoline near open flame, such as a gas water heater.
- Do not run mower in a closed area. Exhaust fumes are dangerous.
- Protect face, eyes, and clothes when servicing battery. Battery acid is a poison and can cause burns. Battery acid can explode when near sparks or flame.
- Keep nuts and bolts tight.
- Maintain equipment in good condition.
- Do not tamper with safety devices.
- Check safety devices regularly for proper operation.
- Keep machine free of grass, leaves, and oil build-up to prevent fire.
- Stop and inspect mower if you strike an object. Repair before restarting.
- Do not make adjustments or repairs with engine running.
- Check grass catcher components periodically for damage or deterioration which could expose moving parts or allow objects to be thrown. Replace grass catcher components when necessary with manufacturer’s recommended parts.
- MOWER BLADES ARE SHARP. Use extra caution to service mower blade. Wrap blades or wear gloves to prevent injury.
- Check brake operation frequently. Adjust and service if necessary.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE OPERATING MOWER

1. Read engine manufacturer's operating and maintenance instructions.
2. Discuss proper maintenance with your Dealer. YOU WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY IF YOU REMOVE PARTS OR MAKE REPAIRS WITHOUT CONSULTING YOUR DIXON DEALER.
3. Read and observe all safety instructions on your mower and in the manual.
4. Check engine oil.
5. Check gas cap to be sure it is in place.
6. Be sure — parking brake is engaged. Mower blades are disengaged.
7. Know how to stop engine. (Turn key to off position,)

STARTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Move throttle control to "Choke" position if engine is cold, full throttle if warm.
2. Insert ignition key and turn to "Start" position. When engine starts, release ignition key. Key will return to "Run" position.
3. Move throttle from "Choke" to desired speed position. On initial operation, set throttle at slow speed.
   NOTE - SAFETY FEATURE

   Safety switches stop engine when operator leaves seat while mower blade is engaged. Engine cannot be restarted when blade is engaged or when operator is off of mower.

   DO NOT rely on safety switches. Always turn engine off when leaving mower,

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Dixon ZTR has a unique transaxle that require only two drive levers to control braking, turning, speed, and direction.

REMEMBER — on initial operation, set throttle speed on slow and operate with mower blade "OFF." At first, operator may "over-control" mower. Slight movements (finger-tip control) are all that are necessary for operation.

TO MOVE FORWARD

Release parking brake.
Push both drive levers gradually forward (away from operator),

TO MOVE BACKWARD

Pull both drive levers gradually back (toward operator).

TO TURN

Turning is controlled by moving one drive lever slightly forward or rearward of the other. To turn left, move left lever rearward of right lever. To turn “square corners,” move lever of desired direction to neutral, move other lever slightly forward or rearward of neutral lever. To turn on mower’s axis (Zero Radius), reduce speed, move one lever to reverse position and other lever to forward position.

TO BRAKE — STOP

To brake (stop) mower, move both levers in opposite direction of travel (if moving forward, pull both levers back), release levers to neutral, set parking brake.

To stop on incline, hold light forward or rearward (opposite of direction of travel) pressure on levers until parking brake is set.

ALWAYS SET PARKING BRAKE BEFORE DIS-MOUNTING.

TO SET PARKING BRAKE

The hand operated parking brake is located at left hand side of mower.

To engage brake, pull lever up and to the rear.
To release brake, move lever forward and down.
Always set parking brake before dismounting.
Release parking brake before moving mower.

TO OPERATE MOWER BLADE

Cutting height is set by positioning the adjusting lever to desired height selection. Pull lever to left until pin clears notch on quadrant. Move lever to desired notch and allow pin to engage.

To start mower blades, move engaging mechanism to “ON” position. See Technical Data Brochure for specifics on each model.

MAINTENANCE

BEFORE PERFORMING ANY MAINTENANCE, SHUT OFF ENGINE, ALLOW TO COOL.

ENGINE

For engine operating and maintenance information, refer to the engine operating and maintenance instructions furnished by the engine manufacturer, supplied with each mower.

BATTERY

Check the fluid in the battery at frequent intervals. Keep fluid level above the plates in each cell, using distilled water.

OFF-SEASON BATTERY STORAGE

Identify each cable so cables can be reconnected to correct terminals. Disconnect cables from terminals. ALWAYS disconnect ground cable first and reconnect last.
Charge battery.

DO NOT remove battery from mower.
Clean top of battery and terminals.

BELT TENSION

The proper tension for an engaged V-belt is lowest tension at which the belt will not slip under normal load conditions.

Check Technical Data Brochure for adjustment procedure. Too much tension shortens belt and bearing life. Too little tension causes slippage and damages belt.

Be sure belts and pulleys are kept free of foreign material.

TRANSAXLE DRIVE BELT

No adjustment necessary.
The spring-loaded idler pulley maintains proper belt tension.
Check idler to assure it moves freely.

MOWER DRIVE BELT

See Technical Data Brochure for belt adjustment procedure on each model.

REPLACE BELTS WHEN WORN OR IF PROPER ADJUSTMENT CANNOT BE MADE.

DRIVE CHAIN ADJUSTMENT

Mower is equipped with manually adjusted drive chain tension idlers, one for each chain at rear of mower.

To adjust drive chains, tighten nut on chain ten-sioner L-rod until spring P/N 5133 is nearly compressed as shown.

NEEDS ADJUSTMENT

PROPER TENSION

Inspection of the chains will show the need for adjustment when the spring P/N 5133 is free of tension. Inspect chains after each 10 to 12 hours of operation. Proper lubrication is important for effective roller chain operation. Use high quality lubricating oil or motorcycle chain lube. (Do not use grease or heavy oil). Apply drops of oil to chain joints after every 25-50 hours of operation. DO NOT LUBRICATE IF OPERATED IN HEAVY DUST OR SAND.

FRONT CASTER ASSEMBLY

Each caster assembly has a grease fitting on the under side of the bearing. Grease with a multipurpose grease once *a* year. All other bearings are sealed and require no lubrication.

WHEELS AND TIRES

Correct tire pressure is important for correct operation of mower.

Rear-drive tires: 8-12 lbs. for 18x9.50-8 tires.

12-14 lbs. for 16x6.60-8 tires & 18x6.50

Front tires 20-24 lbs.

Check lug nuts periodically for tightness.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

Keep all connections clean and tight.

BODY

Wash with mild detergent.

TRANSAXLE

See your authorized Dixon Dealer for adjustment or repair. ADJUSTMENT OR REPAIR BY OTHER THAN AUTHORIZED DIXON DEALER VOIDS WARRANTY.

PARTS/SERVICE

See your Dixon Dealer for replacement parts, warranty or service.

See the Technical Data Brochure included in owner's packet for further Information on specific models.

OWNER INFORMATION

Date Purchased. _____.Mower Model Number. _____

Purchased From. _____
Name Address

Mower Serial Number _____

Date Oil Changed:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Date Engine Tuned:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

DIXON

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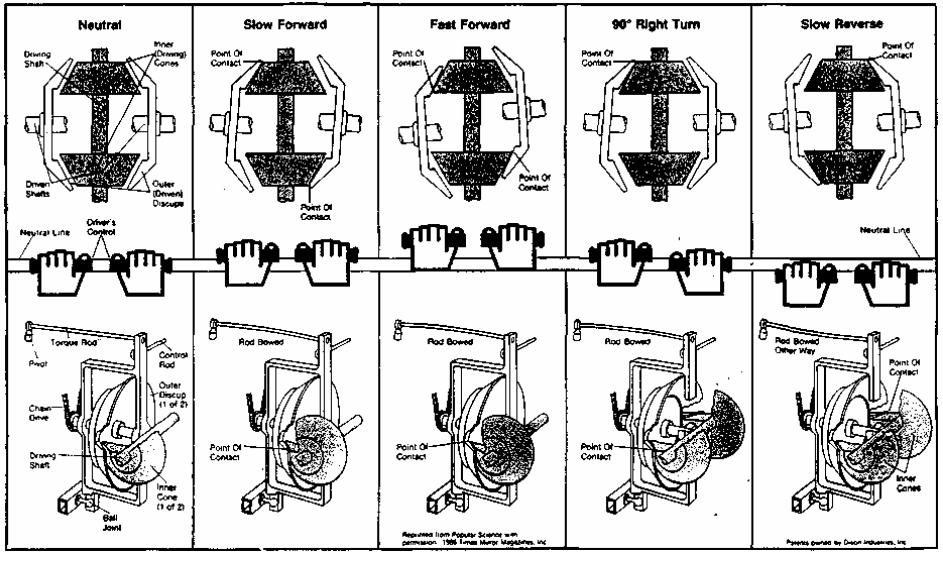

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BLOUNT

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